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JUNE 1977

No. 2

QUARTERLY MAGAZINE

MARCH

JUNE

SEPTEMBER

DECEMBER

The objective of the Numismatists Of Wisconsin shall be to encourage and promote interest in numismatics, to cultivate friendly relations between Wisconsin coin collectors and the coin clubs of Wisconsin, as well as collectors of other states, and to encourage and assist new collectors and coin clubs. All resources shall be used to further the above objectives.

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KURT'S KOLUMN OBSERVATIONS

Now, on the heels of the closing of our 1977 N.O.W. convention at Green Bay, it would serve the order well to offer the following observations.

Wile it seems apparent that the service aspect of our state organization is at an all time peak, it also appears that participation is currently at a level which is much lower. Several possible explainations come to mind. The most obvious, would be the recent general slow down in the numismatic business community. Coupled with this is the fact that our false "goodtimes" economy does not put dollars into the pockets of middle America.

Still, it seems a shame that our people are not grasping the "better" aspects of the hobby with respect to our many programs such as annual scholarships, speakers bureau and writing competitions.

We, of the N.O.W. official family can not put our thumbs on the basis of the problem. I might add, however, that we are with much company, as the numismatic community in general seems to have problems parallel to ours. While it is true that our organization had the unfortunate experience of a factionalization a few years ago, I can not understand why some continue to carry the hatchet.

An organization can only prosper to the fullest extent when all members work together for the common cause of providing better service to the membership at large. We have accomplished this to a rather pleasing degree, but while we continue to not have 100%, so will our woes continue to to plague the organization.

Since the inception of our group, what has been stated above, has rested with all our official families. It seems that repitition of the cause of problems is not heeded by the membership.

While we do not mean to imply that the basic foundation of our state organization is not solid, neither do we want to imply that our problems should be viewed with little or no concern.

We, of Wisconsin, live in exciting times and have top rate talent to draw upon. If you have ever entertained the thought of getting more involved in organized numismatics at the state level, we again extend the plea that you step forward. It will be good for the order.

Jul 7 7

As reported in the last issue of the N.O.W. NEWS, President Kurt Krueger was authorized to write a letter to the President of the United States concerning the removal of public participation in this years United States Assay Commission. N.O.W. members who were candidates for this years panel were: Hichard Dan Harley, Hot Springs, Ark., Jack D. Huggins, Belleville, Ill., Neil Shafer, Racine, Wis., Clem F. Bailey, Iola, Wis., and Kurt Krueger. The following is a copy of this letter.

Mr. Jimmy Carter The White House 1600 Pennsylvania Washington, District of Columbia

Dear Mr. President:

It is with the greatest concern, sir, that I address you. On behalf of the four hundred members of the Numismatists of Wisconsin, by order of our executive board, we urge re-consideration of your move regarding the abolishment of public member commissioners for the annual United States Mint Assav.

The annual Assay Commission is an American institution which has been held without interruption since 1797. Few situations better exemplify that for which our society is so admired involvement by the people, a priority which you have sought.

More is at stake than sending 25 or so people a Presidential appointment to serve on the Assay Commission. You have taken away the potential for some ten million coin collecting Americans to serve their country with honor in this highly esteemed position.

We can not believe that the seemingly low cost factor involved with this commission should signal its doom. Have we already forgotten the proud traditions of our founding fathers, who instigated this program, even though the memories of our two-hundreth birthday linger fresh within the minds of our people? Are we really so near financial catastrophe that we should abandon one of our longest ongoing traditions.....especially now, in the wake of the proposed \$13,000.00 per year salary increase sought by the members of our Congress?

We lift an inquisitive brow.

Kurt R. Krugger, President

P.O. Box 7 Kimberly, Wisconsin 54136

enc: 1

When the last issue of the NOW NEWS was sent to the printer in early February, the final verdict was not in on the public participation of the 1977 United States Assay Commission. Since then, a great deal of material has been printed in the weekly numismatic publications. Members of our state organization were among the people airing their views both pro and con.

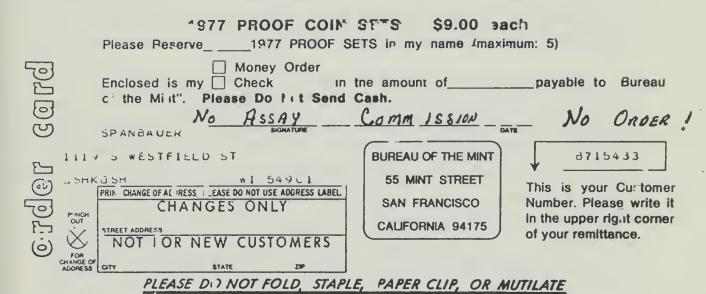
In the February 19 issue of <u>Numismatic News</u>, Kurt Krueger used his "ACCENT ON YOUTH" column to state that the "Change in Assay Panel Is Loss to Numismatics". In his article he stated, "Few will dispute the Mint's status as the 'worlds biggest coin dealer'. Every year it takes more and offers less. It fails to put anything back into the hobby.

A few weeks later in the March 2 issue of <u>Coin World</u>, Morristown New Jersey coin columnist Harold Flartey offered the following comments. "I don't believe it. The Federal government spent \$19,300 for an HEW survey to figure out why children fall from tricycles, (enough to support the Assay Commission for eight years). The Pentagon was allotted \$375,000 to study Frisbees, (150 years for the Assay Commission), and the National Science Foundation was granted \$69,111 to study the mating calls of the Central American Toad, (another 27 years for the Assay Commission). That's only a few of the nutty nonsense items the Congress put up my tax money to support. They can do me a favor and let the Assay Commission alones

Arnold Jeffcoat wrote an article for the March 12 issue of Numismatic News entitled, "Assay Commission Supporters Endorse Irresponsible Principle in Government". He closed this article with the following paragraph, "Generally, the debate over the continuation of the Assay Commission boils down to the question whether any government commission without a purpose should be retained merely because it is the oldest, biggest or most prestigious. To say that the oldest commission should be perpetuated because other useless ones are still convening is utter folly - the kind of folly that has helped put this nation into the debt it is in now".

Gordon Gill of Madison wrote to agree with Mr. Jeffcoat. He stated, "Personally I have collected coins for over 40 years and still enjoy the hobby. Let's get on with collecting and forget the trotting to Philadelphia to build up our personal esteem by serving on the Assay Commission.".

As a member of the 1976 Assay Commission, I feel very strongly concerning the public participation in this event. I have expressed my opinion a number of times in letters to the editors of both Coin World and Numismatic News. I wrote to the President of the United States and the Director of the Mint concerning my views. As a final protest to the elimination of this years gathering, I returned my 1977 Proof Order Card with the following statement in place of my signature, "NO ASSAY COMMISSION - NO ORDER"



The final fate of the publics participation in the Assay Commission is still unknown. In a letter from Peggy Rainwater, Assistant Director, President Personnel, she wrote: "We are glad to have your comments and recommendations concerning public participation in the Assay Commission. You may be certain that they will be reviewed when reconsideration of public appointments to the Commission is undertaken."

GLOBE 606395

by: CLEMENT F. BAILEY, NLG

The numismatic wailing at the wall is taking place due to the circumstances that eliminated the participation of the public members on the 1977 Assay Commission.

Thus far we have a lot of material as to why the numismatic fraternity or sorority should not have been left out in the cold. We haven't read much in defense of the idea of the elimination of the public membership. As every cause probably has two sides, we have to take the opposite side of this brouhaha. The reason for this is the fact that the collecting hobby has no God given right to demand to be on the Assay Commission in the first place.

By the power of political wig wag they have produced front seats: for themselves on the previous Assay Commissions because the Bureau of the Mint is really paying for past favors from the hobby.

As the Bureau of the Mint does not advertise their wares they feel the annual Assay Commission is as good a time as any to pay the debt. What other business can you point to that receives such a vast ocean of publicity for their wares as does the Bureau of the Mint? What other company can receive millions of dollars in orders before the production schedule has been filled in? Actually the annual Assay Commission members from the coin collecting hobby are put there for that one reason. That is the only possible reason for criticizing the deletion of the 1977 public members from the Assay Commission.

On the other hand, we have something else. The Assay Commissions has been filled in previous years by high ranking members of the hobby as well as their wives and others that have a political hinge to their Congressman. Neither of the above could be construed as being "qualified" for duties as required by the annual assay.

Prior to the hobby being treated with the royal rug of welcome at the Philadelphia Mint, to analyze samples of the previous years coinage, we find the commission filled with polititions - appointed as a favor for favors. How qualified were these members?

Of the members from the hobby sector, most of them were associated with the dissemination of government propaganda or the printing of the news releases from the Department of the Treasury for their bureaus.

What percentage of the selected assay members have been qualified for the job?

It the selections for the Assay Commission were made on the same basis as we seem to demand for other government functions then we would find that very few from the hobby sector would have been selected. The makeup of the commission would then have been taken from the various professional occupations such as the American Society of Testing Materials or the American Society for Quality Control or other such similar organizations.

We also have to suppose that other groups could also make a strong argument as to why they should be selected to the Assay Commission.

As with all government functions there is no trade off of information or action with the body being effected. The White House deleted the public membership of the 1977 Assay Commission without much idea of what other savings will be made in regard to the running of the Bureau of the Mint.

No one has suggested that the political plums such as the appointment of the Director of the Mint (normally given to a political favorite) as well as positions in the other mints as assay offices be deleted as most of the jobs are public relations and do not function. Even the job as "Treasurer of the United States" is a non-functional job given for political favors.

If those positions are watered down or not filled by the administration which dunked the public members of the Assay Commission for a savings of "peanuts" compared to the positions we have mentioned - then we say the move was a good one.

If it is business as usual for all of those political favor jobs then the public has been hoodwinked again and the elimination of the Assay Commission would really mean nothing.

Least we forget, the commissioners paid their own way to Philadelphia as well as their own lodging, the expense borne by the government was very small indeed - including security checks and other correspondence.

The end of the line for the public as members of the annual Assay Commission will not hurt the majority of coin collectors - only those that bruise easily in the upper political echelon of the coin hobby.

Applications for the commission were made through the office of the Director of the Mint as well as recomendation from a political source such as your Congressman or any of your buddies at the White House. The actual selection of the names - normally - was made at the director's office and submitted to the White House for approval. There was no mystery attached to the selection nor to the application. The procedure was simple but the selections were difficult as only about two dozen persons could make the list from the several hundred applications.

The next selections taken from the public names will be based on the fact that all had, at one time, served in the Navy. This would be pretty logical as we seem to be at "sea" over our coinage, as well as the Assay Commission.



Coins were in short supply in 1864 due to hoarding. The Civil War had raged since April 12, 1861, but Adm. David C. Farragut's victory in Mobile Bay and Sherman's capture of Atlanta by the late summer and fall of 1864 assured victory for the North and the reelection of Abraham Lincoln, with "Malice toward none, charity for all."

The nation seemed Godforsaken, in the opinion of the Reverend N. R. Watkinson of Ridleyville, Pa., who, at the outset of the war, had petitioned Salmon P. Chase, Secretary of the Treasury, "for recognition of the Almighty God in some form on our coins."

Chase concurred and so notified mint director James Pollock who suggested "Our Country, Our God" or "God Our Trust" and he also suggested a new convenience coin of 2-cent denomination.

By 1863 mint engraver James Longacre had prepared patterns for the suggested new coin showing the bust of Washington and the motto "God And Our Country" dated 1863 plus a pattern showing a broad shield and arrows surrounded by a laurel wreath and "God Our Trust" in a scroll above the wreath. Patterns known as Judd 305-311 were struck in various metals with the Washington bust and Judd 312-318 for the shield coin, which was preferred and recommended by Pollock.

Patterns designated today as Judd 363-377, showing the revision to "In God We Trust" were submitted in 1864 and on April 22 an act of Congress authorized the minting of the first U.S. 2-cent coin, the first coin to display the motto. An act of Congress in July 1955 makes the motto mandatory on all U.S. coins.

Almost 20 million coins announced the debut of the new piece but an unknown quantity contained a "small" motto which bring a premium on todays market. Production dropped to 13.6 million in 1865 and continued to decrease over the years until 1873 when only 600 proofs were minted. The coin which folks didn't seem to care 2-cents for passed into history.

You Think

You're Smart

Numismatists, in general, are the smartest people in the world and you as a member of the Numismatists Of Wisconsin are a part of this elite group. Since you do possess this outstanding quality, it is rather amazing that you let your 1977 dues to your state organization expire.

With this edition of the N.O.W. NEWS, the state organization, which you have enjoyed for the past year or so, is offering you a final opportunity to continue to be a part of this gathering of fellow coin collectors.

On the opposite page, you will find an up-to-date treasurer's report showing that the state organization is indeed self-supporting and in good financial shape. You will also find an application form for your convenience.

It is the hope of your state organization that you will see the opportunities of belonging to this group of fellow collectors and send a check for the \$4.00 immediately. Your continued support will have long lasting effects.

Thank you

TREASURY BALANCE (AS OF 4-14-77)
DISBURSEMENTS: Heritage printers (BOG minutes)\$ 25.48 Entertainment(4-16-77 BOG meeting)\$ 23.36 Keith Krause - dues refund\$ 4.00 TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS\$ 52.84 NEW BALANCE (4-28-77)\$ 1930.51
LIFE MEMBERSHIP FUND\$ 559.27 LIFE MEMBERSHIP FUND (SIX YEAR CERTIFICATE)\$ 1000.00 AUTHENTICATION FUND\$ 392.88 MISCELLANEOUS ASSETTS (10 U.S. SILVER DOLLARS @ \$3.50 EACH)\$ 35.00
GRAND TOTAL ASSETTS\$ 3917.66

we agree.

Richard Phelps Box 212 Sussex, Wisconsin (This space for secretary's use only) Received Number Assigned	Signature of Applicant Memberships are assigned to individuals and coin clubs only. Coin desiers must apply individually not under their business or incorporated name.) I would like to recommend the above named individual for membership in the demismatistical Wiscopern. Signature of Sponsor Complete and mail this application, along with the appropriate dues payment to	I would like to reinstate my membership. (If you desire to retain original membership number, please indicate that number and enclose payment for your back dues.) I currently hold memberships in the following numismatic organizations.	City State Zip [] I am 18 years of age or older and applying for membership for the first time. Enclosed is \$4 to cover my dues for the first year [] I am not yet 18 years old and am applying for membership under your Wisconsin Young Numismatists affiliate branch. Enclosed is \$2 to cover my dues for the first year My birth date was	Membership Application Form (Please Print) Name
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THE 1977 N.O.W. CONVENTION

Friday evening, April 29, saw nearly 50 hearty N.O.W. Conventioneers braving the late hour to attend the Firewater Pow Wow Kicker Offer. Not since 1966, in LaCrosse has such a festive mood captured the attention of N.O.W. members.

An anxious group had assembled for the opening of the convention on Saturday morning. Registration was necessary to enter the bourse area and a steady stream of collectors and non-collectors passed through the turnstiles. Pictured below is





Gerald Johnson signing in as Harold Helm enters the bourse area.

The picture on the right is of Dan Harley of the Franklin Mint and an N.O.W. member. Dan attends the state conventions not to sell the products of his company, but to show and explain its wears. Dan was to be a possible member of the 1977 Assay Commission and is always a joy to talk to.

Upon entering the bourse area, the first table to encounter was that promoting the Numismatists Of Wisconsin along with a screw type coin press which was manned by by our past president Cliff Mishler. State convention medals were available with a special counterstamp, with the counterstamping being done with this old press.



The N.O.W. Board met at 10:00 a.m. Members of the Civil War Token Society met for a brief session at 12:30 p.m., and the NOW Past Presidents Panel gathered at 2:00 p.m.

The educational forum was well attended with fifty people gathering to hear Trey Foerster talk on the German Grosz Republic. Robert Lemke then talked on paper money errors with special emphasis on the recent COPE errors. Ken Bressett concluded the program with a talk on little known collecting avenues. He pointed out many interesting collecting realms which are still within the means of the average collector.

The Wisconsin Young Numismatists Benefit auction was jammed with more than 60 people. The auction netted \$175.00 for the WYN Scholarship Fund.

The Sunday morning Awards Breakfast was also well attended.

The N.O.W. Award of Merit, the highest award bestowed by the state organization was jointly presented to Richard Anderson of Menasha and Gordon Gill of Madison.

Distinguished Service Awards were presented to: Cliff Mishler, Trey Foerster, and Robert Lemke, all of Iola, Ken Bressett, Racine, Fox Valley Coin Exchange, Kimberly, The Nicolet Coin Club of Green Bay as well as show chairman, Mike Segersin. (pictured below)



In the first annual competition for member-club newsletters, the first place award went to Mark Ferguson, editor of the Oshkosh Coin Club publication. Second place went to South Shore (Milwaukee) while third place was awarded to the Racine Numismatic Society.

For his article on the Booker T. Washington commemorative half-dollar, published in the December 1976 issue of the N.O.W. News, Arthur Giere of Galesville was awarded the N.O.W. Literary Award.

Two scholarships to the American Numismatic Association Summer Seminar in Colorado Springs were presented. The N.O.W. scholarship went to Vern Vanderleest of Green Bay and the WYN Scholarship was awarded to Jeff Skrentney of West Bend.

The Allan Clark Memorial Award for promotion of numismatics to junior collectors was presented to Peter Phillips of Madison.

Sharing the Harold Prieve Memorial Award for the most educational exhibit at the N.O.W. Convention were John Tilton, Bellevue, Iowa for his display of Indian \$5.00 gold coins and Len Roosmalen, Madison for an exhibit of U.S. error coinage. The error display also won Roosmalen the Best Of Show Award.

Also on Sunday, the N.O.W. General Membership Meeting was held to a packed house. This annual meeting should be of interest to all members because it is here that the policy of the organization is discussed.

The Wisconsin Numismatic Writers Association organizational meeting drew a token attendance, however, because of the late hour, only a short meeting was held. Many members of the state organization have expressed a desire to support such a group. More on this will appear in the next issue.

It is here that a special word of THANKS should be given to The Nicolet Coin Club of Green Bay and Mike Segersin show chairman for a job well done.

If you wonder if the show was really an enjoyable one, look at the faces of Richard Yeoman (left picture) and Monte Sherwin and Floyd Janney (right picture).





******	N.C.W.	MEMBERS	IN	THE	NEWS	法法律法律法律法律法律法律法律法律法律
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KENNETH BRESSETT The top exhibitor at the Chicago International Coin Fair. The Best of Show trophy was awarded for his display, "Primitive Monies of the World."

JACK D. HUGGINS Sr. is the exhibit chairman for the Missouri Numismatic Society's upcoming convention, August 12-14. Jack is well qualified for this task having won two first place awards in competition at this years New York A.N.A. Convention.

RICHARD S. YEOMAN A special tribute was given to the veteran editor of the "RED BOOK" at the Richard S. Yeoman night, held in conjunction with the Central States Numismatic Society convention held in Milwaukee, May 13-15. The banquet was held on May 14.

KURT R. KRUEGER * GERALD E. JOHNSON * and JACK D. HUGGINS Sr. all had articles printed in <u>The Centinel</u> (the official publication of the Central States Numismatic Society).

Kurt wrote:

"Re-engraved coins teach costly lessons to unwary"

Gene wrote:

"Marital coins and exonumia - past and present"

Jacks:

"Presidential inaugural medals" was also the theme used for the cover of the fall and winter edition.

ARNOLD JEFFCOAT Numismatic News editor was one of ninety-six members of the 9th annual study tour conducted by the American Israel Numismatic Association. The 14 day trip criss-crossed the nation of Israel on the southeastern shore of the Mediterranean Sea.

Ed Kulinski, a well known Milwaukee coin dealer died on April 1. Cancer was the cause listed. Ed was associated with Collin's Coin Shop and was a familiar figure at local coin shows. He was pictured in the September issue of the NOW NEWS along with other Wisconsinites who participated in the 1976 A.N.A. Summer Seminar. In the picture, he is the third person from the right.

An editor for the Milwaukee Numismatic Society's bulletin, Milwaukee Numismatic News, is being sought. Anyone interested in being creative and wishing to make a contribution to the hobby is asked to apply. Contact Darlene Highsmith, Milwaukee Numismatic Society, P.O. Box 19779, Milwaukee, Wis. 53219.

The Fond du Lac Coin Club will hold its Jamboree at the Karl-Ray Lanes on So. Military Road in Fond du Lac. It will be held on September 18, 1977. The chairman is Edgar Waldschmidt P.O.Box 952, Fond du Lac, Wis. 54935.

The first local United States chapter of the International Society Of Bearded Numismatists was formed in Scandinavia, Wis. To join, contact Michael O'Regan, Scandinavia, Wis. 54977. Applicants must be Wisconsin residents.

Just a reminder that the American Numismatic Association will be conducting its election this month and there are a few candidates for the Board of Governors that are NOW members and, I'M sure, would appreciate your vote. No matter how you vote -- DO VOTE!

RATES FOR ADVERTISING IN THE N.O.W. NEWS

All N.O.W. members are eligible to advertise in the N.O.W. News. The ads are to be sent to the N.O.W. News Advertising Manager, and should be camera ready and in "good taste". Payment is to be made to the N.O.W. Secretary-Treasurer. This payment is to be sent in advance of publication.

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The deadline for receiving material for this publication is listed as follows. Please keep this deadline in mind when submitting advertising, coin club news, show dates, and all other related material.

A NOTE FROM THE SHOW DATE CO_ORDINATOR

It is with sincerest hopes that the other Wisconsin Coin Clubs will not try to conflict a show date within a short distance of other shows being listed herein.

There are approximately 18 clubs in Wisconsin, and at least 36 good weekends on which to hold a show. Please, let's not have another April 24, 1977 conflict - whereby - 4 shows try to hold what they promise to be a successful show.

Please send me a list of dates you have picked out, and I shall do my best to help clear this show for your club.

Your co-operation can only insure this. Also, don't expect the next club member to send me the show date, send it yourself and be sure that it is listed.

With sincerest hopes that all Wisconsin clubs have a very successful 1978 show, I remain.

Numismatically yours,

Harold Collins
P.O. Box 711
Menomonee, Wis. 53051

New Coin Shop

A new coin shop has sprung upon the Wisconsin Scene. Located in Menomonee Falls, Wis. (Northwest of Milwaukee), Falls Coins will deal in coins, stamps and their supplies.

Three members of the Numismatists of Wisconsin are active in this new shop.

Correspondance can be sent to:

Falls Coins N. 88 W. 16650 Appleton Ave Menomonee Falls, Wis. 53051

June 18-20, 1977	Missouri	Retail Coin Dealers Assoc. Stouffer's Riverfront Towers St. Louis, Missouri Ray O. Lefman, Chairman 412 So. Van Brunt Blvd. Kansas City, Mo. 64124
Sept. 9-11, 1977	Illinois	Illinois Num. Ass. Convention Northwest Suberban Coin Club P.O. Box 902 Arlington, Heights, Ill. 60006:
Sept. 11, 1977	LaCrosse	15th Annual Coin Show Ramada Inn Scot Hurd, Chairman 1323 Adams Street LaCrosse, Wis. 54601
Sept. 18,1977	Fond du Lac	Karl - Ray Lanes So. Military Road Edgar Waldschmidt, Chairman P.O. Box 952 Fond du Lac, Wis. 54935
Sept. 24-25, 1977	Milwaukee	Milwaukee Numismatic Society Mike Tramte, Chairman P.O. Box 19779 Milwaukee, Wis. 53219
Oct. 2, 1977	Oconomowoc	Cooney Numismatists Ltd. Harold Collins, Chairman P.O. Box 624 Oconomowoc, Wis. 53066
Oct. 9, 1977	Milwaukee	Greater Milwaukee Coin Dealers Assoc. 1717 W. Mitchell St. Milwaukee, Wis.

Oct. 16, 1977	Wausau	Wis. Valley Coin Club Holiday Inn Gene Johnson, Chairman 1921 So. Chase St. Wis. Rapids, Wis. 54494
Dec. 4, 1977	Milwaukee	Greater Milwaukee Coin Dealers Assoc. (See Oct. 9, 1977)
Feb. 19, 1978	Manitowoc	Clipper City Coin Club
March 5, 1978	Appleton	Appleton Coin Club
March 12, 1978	Milwaukee	Greater Milwaukee Coin Dealers Assoc. (See Oct. 9, 1977)
March 12, 1978	Kenosha	Kenosha Coin Collectors Club
March 19, 1978	Waukesha	Waukesha Coin Club
April 2, 1978	Milwaukee	South Shore Coin Club
April 8 & 9, 1978	Racine	Racine Numismatic Society
April 9, 1978	Madison	Madison Coin Club
April 16, 1978	Sheboygan	Sheboygan Coin Club
	NOWTON	

CLUB SECRETARIES AND SHOW CHAIRMAN OF EACH COIN CLUB IN THE N.O.W. ARE REQUESTED TO SEND A LISTING OF THEIR COIN SHOW INCLUDING:

CLUB'S NAME LOCATION GENERAL CHAIRMAN MAILING ADDRESS DATE and LOCATION OF THE SHOW to

Harold Collins P.O. Box 711 Menomonee, Wis. 53051 and Larry Spanbauer 1119 So. Westfield St. Oshkosh, Wis. 54901



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